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Playing Time
77:30Made in Germany
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Booklet notes in English

Famed for his sequence of *Piano Concertos*, Sterndale Bennett also wrote a small but distinguished body of chamber music. The *String Quartet in G major* is one of his earliest surviving works, revealing a precocious talent still strongly influenced by Haydn. Mendelssohn is the model for the *Sextet*, though Bennett's highly virtuosic piano writing, with its concertante interplay, reinforces the work's lyrical qualities and required dexterity as well as its advanced harmonies and hymnal beauty. The concise *Chamber Trio* radiates sheer charm while displaying an even greater grasp of structure and is the first English example in the trio form where both string instruments are given parts independent of the piano.



William Sterndale BENNETT

(1816–1875)

Sextet in F sharp minor, Op. 8 (1835)

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|---|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 1 | I. Allegro moderato ma con passione | 13:04 |
| 2 | II. Scherzo: Quasi presto | 7:55 |
| 3 | III. Andante grazioso | 7:13 |
| 4 | IV. Finale: Allegro assai ed energico | 10:24 |

Chamber Trio, Op. 26 (1839)

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| 5 | I. Andante tranquillo ma con moto | 7:59 |
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| 6 | II. Serenade: Andante ma un poco scherzando | 4:00 |
| 7 | III. Finale: Allegro fermato | 7:15 |

String Quartet in G major, WoO 17 (1831)*

19:03

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|----|------------------------|------|
| 8 | I. Allegro moderato | 6:44 |
| 9 | II. Adagio | 4:44 |
| 10 | III. Menuetto: Allegro | 2:44 |
| 11 | IV. Finale: Allegro | 4:38 |

* WORLD PREMIERE RECORDING

Villiers Quartet 1-4 8-11

James Dickenson, Violin I 5-7 • Tamaki Higashi, Violin II
Carmen Flores, Viola • Nick Stringfellow, Cello 5-7

Jeremy Young, Piano 1-7 • Leon Bosch, Double Bass 1-4

Recorded: 3–5 January 2018 at the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester, UK

Producer, engineer and editor: Michael Whight • Booklet notes: Peter Quantrill

Sponsors: Ida Carroll Trust and the British Music Society

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